

Appln No. 10/757,637
Amdt date January 17, 2008
Reply to Office action of October 13, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for rating a cruise based on pricing data for one or more cruises for a predetermined period of time comprising:
 - electronically obtaining pricing data for one or more cruises;
 - identifying one or more price affecting factors;
 - calculating, using a processor, one or more correlation coefficients for each of the one or more price affecting factors;
 - comparing data based on the calculated one or more correlation coefficients and the one or more price affecting factors with the pricing data to determine if the data is consistent; and
 - calculating a cruise rating based on the pricing data, the one or more price affecting factors, and the one or more correlation coefficients.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more price affecting factors are comprised of at least one of price, season, cruise itinerary, cruise length, at least one port of call, geographic region, port of embarkation, port of disembarkation, date of sail, proximity to a holiday, proximity to a school break, and ship's age.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined period of time is at least one year.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - after calculating the cruise rating, comparing the cruise rating for each of the one or more cruises with the pricing data over a period of time;

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determining if the comparison exceeds a predetermined value;

~~if the comparison exceeds a predetermined value,~~ identifying one or more additional correlation between the pricing data and at least one price affecting factor when the comparison exceeds the predetermined value; and

calculating a new cruise rating based on the pricing data and the identified one or more additional correlation.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
after calculating the cruise rating, comparing the cruise rating for each of the one or more cruises with the pricing data over period of time;

determining if the comparison exceeds a predetermined value;

~~if the comparison exceeds a predetermined value,~~ obtaining new pricing data for the cruise for a period of time when the comparison exceeds the predetermined value;

identifying one or more correlation between the new pricing data and at least one price affecting factor; and

calculating a new cruise rating based on the new pricing data and the identified correlation.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
determining an average cruise rating for one or more cruise ships of a particular cruise line; and

calculating a cruise line rating of the particular cruise line based on the average cruise rating.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

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9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A method for rating a cruise ship based on prices for one or more cruise ships over a period of time comprising:

electronically obtaining pricing data for one or more cruise ships;

calculating, using a processor, a daily price for each of the one or more cruise ships using at least one price affecting factor;

comparing the daily price for each of the one or more cruise ships with the pricing data for that ship over a period of time to determine a consistency indicator; and

~~if the consistency indicator meets a predetermined requirement,~~ calculating a price index of each cruise ship based on the daily price for each one of the one or more cruise ships when the consistency indicator meets a predetermined requirement.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

determining an average price of all daily prices for each of the one or more cruise ships; and

assigning a cruise rating for each one of the one or more cruise ships based on the average price.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

calculating a range of daily prices of the one or more cruise ships; and

determining a cruise rating for the one or more cruise ships based on comparison of the daily price of the one or more cruise ships with the range of daily prices of the one or more cruise ships.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the period of time is at least one year.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined requirement is a set value of a correlation coefficient.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined requirement is a set percentage.

16. (Currently amended) A method for ~~evaluating~~ determining whether a cruise price being charged by a vendor provides cost savings to a consumer based on pricing data for a one or more cruises for a period of time comprising:

electronically obtaining pricing data for one or more cruises;

creating, using a processor, a regression formula based on the pricing data, where the regression formula is a function of at least one price affecting factor;

calculating an expected price of a specific cruise based on the value of at least one price affecting factor of the specific cruise and the regression formula; and

comparing the cruise price being charged with the expected price to determine the cost savings to the consumer.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of displaying the comparison between the cruise price and the expected price in a medium, the comparison showing the cruise price, the expected price, and the cost savings to the consumer.

18. (Original) The method of claim of 17, wherein the medium is at least one of an electronic medium, a print medium, a sound medium, and a paper medium.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one price affecting factor is comprised of at least one of price, season, cruise itinerary, cruise length, at least one port of

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call, geographic region, port of embarkation, port of disembarkation, date of sail, proximity to a holiday, proximity to a school break, and ship's age.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the period of time is at least one year.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise comprises:

calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation;

comparing the price index with the pricing data for a second period of time;

determining if the comparison exceeds a predetermined value;

if the comparison does not exceed the predetermined value, calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the price index; and

if the comparison exceeds ~~[[a]]the~~ predetermined value, identifying one or more additional correlation between the pricing data and the at least one price affecting factor, calculating a new price index based on the pricing data and the identified one or more correlation, and calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the new price index.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise comprises:

calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation,

comparing the price index with the pricing data for a second period of time,

determining if the comparison exceeds a predetermined value,

if the comparison does not exceed the predetermined value, calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the price index, and

if the comparison exceeds ~~[[a]]the~~ predetermined value, obtaining new pricing data for the cruise for a period of time, identifying one or more correlation between the new pricing data and at least one price affecting factor, calculating a new price index based on the new pricing

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data and the identified correlation, and calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the new price index.

24. (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

recalculating the daily price for each of the one or more cruise ships using one or more additional price affecting factors when the consistency indicator does not meet the predetermined requirement, and

repeating the steps of comparing the daily price, calculating the price index, and recalculating the daily price.